Finger Prints of Inmates in Tihar Jail

2412. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tihar Jail has undertaken a pilot project where scanners will take finger prints of the inmate every time he leaves or enters the jail, if so, the details of the project;

(b) whether the above project will also cover the visitors; and

(c) how far it will help to control jail breaks and in tracking down of the accused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIHARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have installed on an experimental basis Biometric Finger Indentification system in one of the jails of the Tihar Jail Complex which enables every prisoner to be photographed alongwith his/her fingerprints.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) This System is expected to help proper identification of the prisoners ordered to be released and also identify the repeat-prisoners.

Talks with Naga Militants

2413. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government bad initiated any discussion with the Naga militants which have become active in North-Eastern States, to bring them into the mainstream and if so, the outcome thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware that annual Budget for Naga militants is about 35 crore and if so, whether Government have tried to find the sources from which that amount comes and if so, the details thereof and what steps have been taken to stop such assistance; and

(c) how long the cease fire with Naga militants would continue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND): (a) Discussions have been going on with NSCN (IM) leaders to find an amicable solution to the Naga issues. While there has been an exchange of views and efforts to reach a mutually acceptable position, talks remain inconclusive.

(b) There are reports about annual budget of NSCN(IM). Funds are raised through extortion, termed by NSCN(IM) as 'taxes'. These issues are raised with NSCN (IM) leaders during peace talks and during meetings of the Cease Fire Monitoring Group.

(c) Cease-fire has been extended upto 31st July, 2004.

Non-Utilization of Funds

2414. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre gave 150 crores to Gujarat Government for relief and rehabilitation of victims of Gujarat carnage (Feb—May 2002);

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that more than 50 per cent funds have not been utilized by State Government;

(c) what are the details of how funds have been disbursed;

(d) whether inspite of representations made by the victims who had suffered during these riots, these funds have not been fully utilized; and

(e) whether the Prime Minister was urged to help the victims and direct State Government to fully implement the disbursement of amount to the victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (e) the Prime Minister announced a Rs. 150 crore package for the relief and rehabilitation of the victims of the riots in Gujarat in 2002 and an amount of Rs. 77.20 crores has already been released. The State Government has spent an amount of Rs, 80.27 crores, as per details given in the Statement.